

DONNELL FAMILY

1. Thomas¹ **Donnell**. Born about 1712 in Ireland¹. Died in 1795 in Guilford co, NC². He married Jane **Latham** in 1743 in Pennsylvania¹.

Thomas' forebears undoubtedly came originally from Scotland to Ireland, members of the great MacDonald clan and probably part of the seventeenth century "plantations" of northern Ireland (see the McLean Family). Some researchers believe that Thomas was born in America, grandson of one Bryan McDonald who came in 1686 from Scotland to New Castle⁶⁶ (then Pennsylvania, now Delaware). This Bryan, in turn, is said to descend from the MacDonalds of Glencoe, and through them from an ancient and illustrious lineage. If proven, this would be a very interesting addition to our ancestry; however, the assertion is based on several unproven assumptions and no documentary evidence. More research needs to be done before this hypothesis can be accepted.

Although it is thought that Thomas came to Pennsylvania about 1737¹, the first records found of him are the tax lists for West Nottingham township, Chester co, PA. He is shown on the lists from 1747 to 51, as is Robert **Donnell**, believed to be his brother. Included on these lists are a number of the names later associated with the Donnells in North Carolina, such as Kerr, Denny, Nelson, Mayben (Mebane), and Rankin⁶⁷. West Nottingham twp was the site of Nottingham Presbyterian Church, founded by 1725⁶⁸. The Donnells were later prominent members of the Presbyterian churches wherever they lived, so Thomas would be expected to have settled near one. The location of the church was in an area under dispute between the colonies of Maryland and Pennsylvania at that time, but in 1767 was placed in Maryland, near the town of Rising Sun.

In 1741 the neighborhood was visited by a minister named George Whitefield. Thousands of persons throughout the area heard his message, which was strongly influenced by the emotionalism of John Wesley^{69,70}. So powerful was his preaching that it aroused great dissension within the churches, many of them, including Nottingham, splitting into two separate congregations, referred to as the "Old Side" (conservatives) and the "New Side" (followers of Whitefield)⁶⁹.

In about 1750 a group of members of the "Old Side" church at Nottingham formed a company to negotiate with the English Lord Granville, who owned vast tracts of land in Carolina. As a result, 21,120 acres along North Buffalo and Reedy Fork Creeks, in what would become Guilford County, North Carolina, were set aside for members of the Nottingham Company^{1,71}. About 1753 the first families arrived to take up their grants, going by way of the Great Wagon Road through Maryland and Virginia to the Carolina back country in covered wagons⁶⁰. At least seventeen families eventually arrived to settle on the Nottingham Company's grant.

On 3 Dec 1753, Thomas **Donnell** received a grant from Granville for 640 acres on the north side of North Buffalo Creek and another for 640 acres on the south side of South Buffalo Creek. Robert **Donnell**, probably his brother, received 560 acres at the same time⁷². The land was then in Rowan County, from which Guilford County would later be formed.

These grants were not outright sales of land, but rather perpetual leases. The amounts paid were quite small, ten shillings, which represented the first rent payment. After that they paid rent of three shillings per hundred acres. They could retain the land as long as they were not more than

six months late in paying the rent⁷³.

Thomas acquired several more large parcels of land in the same area, including 650 acres on North Buffalo Creek on 10 Aug 1759, 400 acres on the south side of South Buffalo on the same date, and 392 acres on North Buffalo adjacent to his brother on 21 Dec 1761⁷². Rankin calls him one of the wealthiest and most influential members of the Nottingham Colony⁷⁴.

Like all of our pioneer ancestors, these settlers had to clear the land of forest before they could plant. Their first homes were rough log cabins with dirt floors. Game was plentiful, as well as fish, and the pelts of the animals they hunted also supplied clothing, blankets and rugs. Corn was the main crop, wheat bread being seldom seen. Until grist mills could be built, all grain was ground in hand mills, similar to a coffee mill⁷⁵. Their first few years in the new country were ones of hard work and little comfort.

Thomas **Donnell's** home was on the north side of North Buffalo Creek, about four miles east of where the Buffalo Presbyterian Church was built. He was a ruling elder in the church¹. This was a congregation of conservative or "Old Side" Presbyterians. In 1762 a "New Side" church was organized on Alamance Creek. (Buffalo Creek was named for the herds of wild buffalo in the area when the first settlers came. These were wood buffalo, considerably smaller than the great bison of the western plains.)

Thomas had a tavern, probably a stopping place for travelers, in his home in 1754⁷⁷. In 1756 Thomas was captain of a company in the Rowan County regiment of militia⁷⁶. From 1756 until at least 1770 he was a justice of the peace⁷⁸. In the Revolutionary War, a Thomas **Donnell** acted as guide to Col. William Washington before the Battle of Guilford Courthouse in 1781⁷⁹, however it seems likely that this was a younger Thomas, perhaps son of the pioneer.

Thomas' wife Jane is believed to have died about 1784⁸⁰. He is not listed in the first census in 1790, probably by then living in the home of one of his children. No will or settlement of estate has been found for him, probably because he had disposed of his property or divided it among his children before his death. He is surely buried in the Buffalo Church Cemetery, but no gravestone survives.

Children:

- i. James² **Donnell**. Born 1744³, probably in PA. Died in 1811 in TN⁴. He married Agnes **Denny**, daughter of William **Denny** sr¹. They moved to Tennessee in 1799¹.
- ii. Hannah **Donnell**. Born in 1746³, probably in PA. Died in 1803⁸⁴. She married, first Alexander **McKnight**¹. He was born about 1737 and died in 1774⁸⁵. She married second George **Denny**, son of James and Agnes **Denny**, 23 Feb 1775 in Guilford co, NC⁵. He was born about 1745 and died 5 Jan 1816⁸⁴.
- 2 iii. John **Donnell**.
- iv. William **Donnell**. Born in 1749⁶, probably in Chester co, PA. Died 22 Dec 1822 in Guilford co, NC⁷. He married Agnes "Nancy" **Denny**, born about 1757, died 18 Mar 1839⁸¹, daughter of James and Agnes **Denny**. No children. His will, written 26 Oct 1816, left his estate to his wife Nancy, including a "negro woman Biddy and her children", to be freed after the decease of his wife, "so far as the laws of the state will admit"¹⁰².
- v. Robert **Donnell**. Born in 1752³, probably in Chester co, PA. Died 15 Feb 1816 in Guilford co, NC⁷. He married Elizabeth **Donnell**, 26 Jul 1775, in Guilford co,

NC⁸. She was born about 1757 and died 18 Aug 1844⁸², daughter of Robert (2nd) and Mary **Donnell**^{1,82}.

- vi. Thomas **Donnell**. Born in 1754³, probably in Rowan co, NC. A physician, he lived in Mecklenburg co, NC¹, and by 1841 in Sumner co, TN²⁴.
- vii. Andrew **Donnell**. Born 17 Apr 1757⁹, probably in Rowan co, NC. Died 24 Dec 1835¹⁰ in Guilford co, NC⁸³. He married first, Agnes "Nancy" **Brawley** or **Braly**, 29 Sep 1779 in Rowan co, NC¹¹. He married second Mary **Creswell**, 24 Nov 1819 in Guilford co, NC¹². She was born about 1756 and died 28 Jan 1829⁸¹.
- viii. George **Donnell**. Born in 1759³, probably in Rowan co, NC. Died in 1839, in Wilson co, TN. He married Isabella **Kerr**, daughter of David and Catherine **Kerr**, 6 Aug 1784 in Guilford co, NC¹². He was a ruling elder in Alamance Presbyterian Church in Guilford co, before moving to Wilson co, TN in 1804¹.
- ix. Jane **Donnell**¹³. Died by 1816¹⁵.
- x. Latham **Donnell**. Born about 1763⁸⁰, probably in Rowan co, NC. Died in 1829 in Guilford co, NC^{16,80}. He married Charlotte (**Mitchell**) **Erwin**, daughter of Adam **Mitchell** and widow of Robert **Erwin**¹. She died in 1845⁸⁴.
- xi. Alexander **Donnell**. Born about 1764 in Rowan co, NC, died about 1773 in Guilford co, NC, aged nine years⁸⁴.

2. John² **Donnell** (Thomas¹). Born 4 Jan 1747/8¹⁷, probably in W. Nottingham, Chester co, PA. Died 7 May 1822, in Guilford co, NC¹⁸. He married, first, Hannah **Meek**, about 1771, in Guilford co, NC¹⁹. She died in 1781.

During the Revolutionary War, there was an epidemic of smallpox in Guilford County. The British Army had brought it to the neighborhood. One of the **Rankins**, a young soldier who had been captured by the British, escaped and headed for home. By the time he got there, he was very sick, but the many relatives and friends who came to welcome him home did not recognize the disease until many had been exposed¹⁰⁸. It spread through the Buffalo Church congregation, and one of those who became infected was John's wife Hannah.

Inez Hannaford writes, "When his first wife Hannah **Meek** was on her death bed with small pox, Elizabeth **Denny**, a very true friend who had just recovered from the same malady, came to care for her. Hannah told Elizabeth she was going to die and wanted her to take her place. She also told her husband that was her wish. About six months after her death, they were married"²⁰.

John **Donnell** and Elizabeth **Denny** were married on 1 Nov 1781, by Rev. David Caldwell of Buffalo Presbyterian Church in Guilford co, NC²⁴. She was the daughter of James and Agnes **Denny**⁹⁵, born 23 Feb 1762, in Lancaster co, PA¹⁸, and died 7 May 1847, in Guilford co, NC⁷.

John served in the Revolutionary War in Col. John **Paisley**'s regiment for six months in 1779, mostly on the Savannah River in Georgia; six months in 1780, surviving the defeat by Cornwallis near Camden, SC, on 16 Aug; and from 1781 to the close of the War. He served as Captain and later Major, and was always after the War referred to by the title of Major. He often talked about the details and incidents of his War service, "oftener and more repeatedly than any other incident of his life"²⁴.

Major John lived on a 400 acre "plantation" on North Buffalo Creek⁸⁶, not far from the residence of his parents⁸⁷. He was a ruling elder in Buffalo Presbyterian Church⁸⁸. The Guilford County court records show that in Nov 1781, he was appointed guardian of one Martha **Thompson**⁸⁹. In Feb 1783, he became guardian to Robert **McKnight**, orphan son of his brother-in-law Alexander **McKnight**⁸⁹.

Like most well-off land owners in the South at that period, Major John owned slaves. The first census in 1790, in which he is shown living near his brothers Andrew and James, indicates that he had one slave at that time⁹⁰. It also shows eleven other people in his household, five male and six female, which corresponds with his known children by both marriages. The 1800 census shows three slaves, and the children only of the second marriage, the others having left home by then⁹¹. The 1815 tax list shows that he owned 1086 acres of land, valued at \$3250⁹². When he wrote his will in 1822, he bequeathed four slaves, George, Alice, Charity, and Bill⁸⁶.

His will, written less than two months before his death at the age of 74, provided for Elizabeth's support from the home farm, which he bequeathed to the youngest son Levi. The widow was also to have most of the livestock and household furniture, and a "Negro man named George". The married sons and oldest daughter Jane, having undoubtedly received their portions of the estate at the time their marriage, were left one dollar each. Daughters Hannah, Nancy, and Mary received \$100 each. The unmarried daughters Betsy, Sarah, and Ruth received larger bequests, including cash, land, and slaves, and son Levi got the plantation, with of course the obligation to support his mother⁸⁶.

Elizabeth survived her husband by 25 years, and in her later years lived with her daughter and son-in-law Betsy and David **Wharton**. Her will provided legacies, mostly of clothing and household goods, to daughters Elizabeth, Sarah, and Ruth, and step-daughter Hannah **Paisley**. Also, "to my beloved son George and his son John Denny my Scotts family bible". Any money on hand is to be divided between her children Nancy, Mary, John, William, George, Elizabeth, and Ruth, and the children of her deceased sons James and Levi⁹³.

Major John and Elizabeth **Donnell** are buried in Buffalo Presbyterian Church Cemetery. Their double stone reads in part, "They were both pious and exemplary members of the church at this place"⁹⁴.

Children of John **Donnell** and his first wife Hannah **Meek**:

- i. Jane³ **Donnell**. Born 24 Oct 1772^{20,96} in Guilford co, NC. She married William **Smith**, 17 May 1791 in Guilford co, NC²¹.
- ii. Thomas **Donnell**. Born 20 Jul 1774^{20,96} in Guilford co, NC. He married Nelley **Smith**, 28 Oct 1795, in Guilford co, NC²². Their listing in the 1800 census of Guilford co, NC, shows two males and two females between 16 and 26. The additional couple may be his sister Rebecca and brother Adam. The 1810 census lists Thomas with two males and two females under ten, and one female between ten and 16 (in addition to his wife).
- iii. Rebecca **Donnell**. Born 25 July 1776^{20,96}. No further data.
- iv. Adam **Donnell**. Born 13 Apr 1778^{20,96}. No further data.
- v. Hannah **Donnell**. Born 20 Mar 1780⁷. Died 21 May 1814, in Guilford co, NC⁷. She married John **Paisley**, 26 Nov 1799, in Guilford co, NC²³. The 1810 census of Guilford co, NC, shows them with one male and four females under ten years of age.

Children of John **Donnell** and his second wife Elizabeth **Denny**:

- vi. Nancy **Donnell**. Born 8 Nov 1782, in Guilford co, NC²⁵. She married Adlai **Donnell**, 16 Mar 1803 in Guilford co, NC²⁶. They moved to Wilson co, TN^{97,103}.
- vii. James **Donnell**. Born 9 Aug 1784 in Guilford co, NC⁷. Died 30 Jun 1833 in Guilford co, NC⁷. He married Nancy **Scott** 15 Jan 1807⁹⁸. She was the daughter of William **Scott**, born 17 Apr 1788 and died 6 Nov 1867⁷. They had eight

children.

- viii. Mary **Donnell**. Born 1 May 1786, in Guilford co, NC²⁵. She married John **Donnell**, son of Andrew and Agnes (**Braly**) **Donnell**. In 1851 they were living in Wilson co, TN¹⁰³. They moved to Spring Creek, Madison co, TN⁹⁹. Four children.
- ix. John **Donnell**. Born 3 Jun 1789 in Guilford co, NC²⁵. Died 20 Aug 1882 in Madison co, TN¹⁰⁰. He married Jane S. "Gency" **McGaha**¹⁰¹. Ten children.
- x. William **Donnell**. Born 25 Jun 1791 in Guilford co, NC²⁵. He married Martha **Irwin**²⁰ and moved to Tennessee.
- xi. George **Donnell**.
- xii. Elizabeth "Betsy" **Donnell**. Born 20 Jul 1795 in Guilford co, NC²⁷. Died 12 Apr 1880 in Guilford co, NC⁷. She married David **Wharton**, son of Elisha and Elizabeth (**Schoolfield**) **Wharton**, 23 Oct 1826 in Guilford co, NC²⁸.
- xiii. Sarah **Donnell**. Born 8 Nov 1797 in Guilford co, NC²⁵. Sarah was disabled in some way, perhaps mentally. Her father left her \$600 in his will, which was paid to her mother as "Guardian of Sarah"¹⁰⁴. Her mother, in her will, leaves \$100 to David and Elizabeth **Wharton**, "in consideration of their taking charge of my daughter Sarah"⁹³. In Feb 1844, David **Wharton** was appointed guardian of Sarah **Donnell**, "a lunatic"⁸⁹. She was deceased by 14 Aug 1851, when her sisters Mary and Nancy signed a power of attorney to Robert **Woodburn** to collect their shares of the estates of their mother and Sarah¹⁰³.
- xiv. Ruth **Donnell**. Born 17 Aug 1800 in Guilford co, NC²⁵. She married Calvin **King**, 1 Jan 1831 in Guilford co, NC²⁵.
- xv. Levi **Donnell**. Born 17 Aug 1800 in Guilford co, NC²⁹, twin of Ruth. Died 25 Dec 1839 in Guilford co, NC⁷. He married Hannah **Rankin**, daughter of Robert and Margaret (**Scott**) **Rankin**, 3 Jan 1828 in Guilford co, NC³⁰. Hannah married second Thomas **Underwood**, 23 Jul 1846 in Guilford co, NC¹⁰⁵, and died 6 Jun 1849 of smallpox¹⁰⁶. Levi and Hannah's children were John, William C., Elizabeth, and Robert¹⁰⁷, who was killed in the Civil War.

3. George³ **Donnell** (John², Thomas¹). Born 1 Jul 1793 in Guilford co, NC³¹. Died 16 Apr 1877 in Greenville, Bond co, IL³².

He married Anna "Anne" **McLean**, daughter of Joseph **McLean** and Margaret **Mebane**, 25 May 1815 in Guilford co, NC³³. She was born 18 Jun 1795 in Guilford co, NC³⁴. Died 21 Aug 1889 in Greenville, Bond co, IL³⁵.

George and Anna's two eldest sons were born in Guilford County, NC, where the parents were members of the Buffalo Presbyterian Church on North Buffalo Creek. In 1818, George went to Bond county, Illinois, to look for a suitable place for a new home. The following year, in company with a group of neighbors and relatives, including the Dennys, Nelsons, and Paisleys, he brought his wife and family to settle several miles west of the infant village at Greenville⁵⁵.

The journey from North Carolina must have been the great adventure of these people's lives. They traveled in wagons drawn by four horses, perhaps at first on the Great Wagon Road, the same road through Virginia on which their forefathers had migrated from Pennsylvania. Although by 1819 some sections of this road would have been surfaced with the recently-developed macadam, much of the trip would still have been through sloughs of mud or clouds of dust⁶⁰. In western Maryland, our group would have turned west along the National Road. This road was opened in 1818 from Cumberland, MD, to Wheeling, WV, a stone-surfaced road financed by the federal government.

After Wheeling, the road was only a trail and probably not suitable for wagons. George and his group may have loaded their wagons on flat boats or rafts at Wheeling and floated down the Ohio River, past Ohio, Indiana, and Kentucky to Illinois. The other possible route was through Tennessee and Kentucky, crossing the Ohio River at an old Indian ford at Shawneetown and following the Indian trail through southern Illinois¹⁰⁹. The trip generally took about two months.

On 2 Feb 1820, George bought the southwest quarter of Section 12, Township 5 North, Range 4 West⁵⁶, 160 acres on Indian Creek in Ripley Township, where timber and water were plentiful. His son Joseph later wrote that "Prairie grass grew all through the timber, no underbrush, briars, or weeds. The deer could be seen quite a way off through the timber"¹¹⁶.

The **Donnells** joined the Shoal Creek Presbyterian Church, the first in the county. George was active in organizing and teaching in the first Sunday School in southern Illinois. This school was held on both Saturday and Sunday, the first day being devoted to lessons in reading, writing, and arithmetic and the second to Bible study. Families came from miles around to attend, this probably being the only education then available in that newly-settled area^{31,57}. On 9 Aug 1822, George bought another quarter section about one and a half miles southwest of the first, in Section 23, Township 5, Range 4⁵⁸, where Indian Creek runs into Shoal Creek, near where Bilyeu's Mill was later built.

On 19 July 1820, George was appointed Justice of the Peace. On 26 July 1822, he executed a power of attorney to Samuel **Lee** to "adjust my title by suit, compromise or otherwise to certain negroes in Randolph or other county," NC¹¹⁸. In 1824 he ran for county commissioner, but came in fourth in a field of five¹¹⁷.

George apparently decided to move closer to the town of Greenville, the county seat, for on 27 Dec 1825 he purchased 70 acres a mile north of town, being the west half of the southwest quarter of Section 3, Township 5, Range 3¹¹⁰, on what was then the main road north to Hillsboro, the county seat of Montgomery County, north of Bond. Over a period of thirty years, George acquired many more parcels of land in the area, mostly in the northern tier of sections in Central Township and the southern two tiers in La Grange Township, within three or four miles of Greenville. Much of this land became farms for his children in later years.

George and Anna were founding members of the Presbyterian Church of Greenville when it was formed on 15 Sep 1825⁵⁹. For several years the church services were held in a hall in town, but in 1832 it was decided to combine the two congregations of the Shoal Creek and Greenville churches. This increased the size of the group enough to support a building of their own. It was built on or near George's land in Section 3, near where Hazel Dell Cemetery is now located. The first church was of logs, cut and sawed by the members¹⁰⁹. George is said to have "aided with much time and money in erecting their first church edifice"⁵⁷. In 1846 and again in 1875, George and Anna also gave land on the Hillsboro Road to the Presbyterian Church of Greenville, to be used for the cemetery⁶².

George later told the story of an incident which occurred in the early period of settlement. Lorenzo Dow, a well-known Methodist missionary, held a revival meeting in a grove near Greenville. Before the service, he paid a local boy to climb to the top of a tree on a hill nearby. He gave the boy a trumpet and told him to blow it when he heard the signal, "Gabriel, blow ye your trumpet!" At the end of the meeting, the preacher asked the large crowd how many of them would be ready when Gabriel blew his trumpet. Then he shouted, "Gabriel, blow ye your trumpet!", and the blast was heard from the distance. The gathering, in terror, shouted, cried, ran, some fainted, and some were trampled by the panicking crowd. George said it was both funny and sad¹¹⁵.

Education seems to have been very important to George. In addition to the Shoal Creek Sunday School, he is said to have helped establish the Chapel Hill School, and to have lived for a time at Hillsboro, so that his children could get the best available schooling^{55,57}. The Hillsboro Academy was then considered the best school in the region. In addition, his youngest son Henry graduated from Hanover College in Indiana¹¹¹.

George was also a worker in the cause of temperance, which it seems was sorely needed in the early days of the county. A county history says, "On public occasions, drunken men were so common, that sober men seemed to be the exception". It describes public gatherings of the period from 1830 to 1845, with drunken men "swearing and yelling like Indians", most of them looking for a fight and ending up with black eyes and bloody noses⁶¹. For a time, George contributed to the problem by operating the first distillery in the county and selling whiskey. When he saw the harm it did, however, he closed down his still. The last barrel, which he intended to keep for himself, he loaded on a wagon to haul home to his cellar. On going up a hill, however, the barrel rolled out and the whiskey was all spilled. George took this as a sign, never again drank alcohol, and worked energetically for temperance reform¹¹¹.

George was always very active in the affairs of his church. On 5 Mar 1828, he was elected a ruling elder and ordained to that office. He held that position for the rest of his life, excepting one period of about five years (explained below). The ruling elders, usually three or more, constituted the "session" of the church, and were responsible for attending to some of the church business, as well as accepting new members, granting recommendations to those leaving, and dealing with unacceptable conduct by members. George was called on to discuss with the offenders such lapses as lack of church attendance and excessive drinking, and sometimes to try to resolve difficulties between members. He also frequently represented his congregation at meetings of the regional bodies of presbytery and synod¹¹².

By 1841 the congregation decided that the log church was no longer adequate and that they should erect a church building in town. On 16 Feb of that year, they elected three trustees, including George **Donnell**, to constitute the building committee. They were to collect subscriptions from the members to finance the project, select and acquire a site, and arrange for construction¹¹². The new church was built at the corner of Third and South Streets, south of the present post office. A great deal of the construction work was done by the **Donnell** and **White** families personally, including cutting timber, sawing lumber, and framing the building. What they could not do themselves, they arranged to have done by a carpenter by exchange of labor, the sons of the two families taking plows and ox teams to break the prairie on the carpenter's land^{109,111}. The new church was dedicated in 1842, however a visitor to Greenville in 1845 noted that the interior was still unfinished and that the pews were "of plain boards, square and straight-backed, by no means comfortable"¹¹³. Nevertheless, the building was used until 1872, when it was extensively remodeled and enlarged¹⁰⁹. On 30 Apr 1842, rental was collected on pews in the new church, to help pay for construction. George paid \$6.50 for one, and two of his sons, Joseph M. and John D., also paid for pews. In May, George was one of the trustees elected to arrange for the disposal of "the old meeting house north of Greenville". He was frequently afterward elected to the office of trustee¹¹².

At about the time the new church was being built, the congregation hired a new pastor, Rev. James **Stafford**. Apparently he and George did not see eye to eye, although the subject of their disagreement is not recorded. By 30 June 1849, the difficulties had become so serious that the congregation was called upon to vote on whether to retain Rev. **Stafford** and/or Elder **Donnell** in office. They chose to retain the pastor and not George. On the following 23 Sep, George and Anna and most of their children requested to be dismissed from the Presbyterian Church with recommendations to the Congregational Church of Greenville¹¹², which stood a couple of blocks northwest, on the site of the present Carnegie Library.

Apparently most of the **Donnell** family attended the Congregational Church for about five years, although Rev. **Stafford** resigned his post on 11 Nov 1849. On 12 Mar 1854, the congregation of the Presbyterian Church adopted a resolution stating that their vote against George was "wrong and uncalled for", and recommending mutual forgiveness. On 16 Sep George and Anna were received back into the church, and George resumed his duties as elder¹¹².

Whether connected to the difficulties with the church is unknown, but also in 1849 George and Anna moved to a new home which appears to have been farther north on the Hillsboro Road, three miles from Greenville. This was a brick house, the bricks being made and fired from the soil of the building site. It is said to have been a congenial stopping place for travelers on the main road^{57,111}.

George had an ecumenical tendency, which may have been increased by his period of worshiping with the Congregationalists. In 1854 he suggested that the local churches hold a joint prayer meeting on Thursday evenings. This was done and continued for many years^{111,113}. The Presbyterian and Congregational churches exchanged members frequently over the years, and in 1865 George was on a committee to explore a possible merger between the two¹¹². Although it did not happen at that time, the churches did eventually unite, and have since 1898 worshiped as one Presbyterian church¹¹⁴.

Part of a letter has survived which gives us an idea of George's piety. The first page is apparently missing, since there is no date or salutation. It was probably written in 1872 or after, since the "Uncle Denny" he speaks of was his son John Denny Donnell, who died in 1872. It seems to be intended for one of George and Anna's adult grandchildren.

Jesus precious to our soul. We believed the Bible was the word of God, and when we comenced house keeping we comenced Family prayer, and then reading of God's word.

It was not a great while untill we both found Jesus precious to our souls, and his promise to us was that his grace was sufficient for us; and we have found his promise true up to this time; and we believe it will be true in a Dying hour. Dear Children nothing would do us more good than to know that you were the humble and faithful folowers of our dear saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ. be sure and try to meat us in his Kingdom of Glory above.

We have no doubt but that you often think of the suden Death of your Unckle Denny Donnell then what we wish to say to you is be ye also ready for we know not what a day may bring forth. Your uncle Denny had his life insured about a week before he got killed for seven thousand Dollars, we understand that the insurance is in favour of his wife and Children.

Your grand Ma & I are injoying our usual helth, your grand Ma is very lame in both her limbs, her left limb is the wirst. She uses a staff when she goes from one room to the other; your relations in this Co are all well at this time, we hear from Henry & Anna every week or two. Anna is not entirely well of phthisic, but she is a great deal better.

Grand Ma has your pictures in her Alben, we would be very glad to have you and your wife make us a visit, your relations all wish to see you both. Write soon and tell us when we may look for you both. Rememer us to your wife & friends and to all

inquiring friends. Geo & Anne Donnell

NB Your grand Ma thinks you had better go to the Country and live a quiet peacible and a happy life at home sweet Home. GD

George did more traveling after settling in Bond County. In addition to all the church meetings he attended, he also returned once to North Carolina on horseback, to see his old home and visit with relatives and friends¹¹¹. In 1858 he and Anna with their daughter Emily journeyed to Iowa¹¹², probably to visit relatives. On that occasion, he obtained a certificate of "Christian character and good standing" from his church, which he said, "will give me access at once to the fellowship and confidence of Christians where I go, and perhaps I may be able to do something for Christ"¹¹¹.

On 13 Sep 1858, Abraham **Lincoln**, opposing Stephen A. **Douglas** for a seat in the Senate, made a campaign speech in Greenville¹¹⁹. This was the period of their famous debates, in which **Lincoln** opposed slavery and upheld the union ("A house divided against itself cannot stand.") Whether George returned from his trip in time to hear him speak is not known, but no doubt some of George and Anna's sons would have been present at the outdoor meeting, not far from the Presbyterian church.

In the spring of 1874 George and Anna again set out, this time to visit their children and grandchildren in Kansas and Colorado¹¹¹. By this time they were able to travel by railroad, which had come to Greenville in 1868.

In his later years, George seems to have been universally known as "Father Donnell"^{109,111,113}. In 1864 he had a stroke causing some paralysis. He gradually recovered, but gave up farming and moved into the town of Greenville, where he engaged in sales of literature for the American Bible Society⁵⁵. Their home was probably on the east side of Prairie Street, just south of South Street, where they owned some lots¹²⁰. A second stroke, in about 1876, eventually resulted in his death at the age of 83, though he lingered in a state of some physical and mental impairment for a year or more¹¹¹. He was at the home of his youngest daughter Emily **McCord** in Greenville, and "surrounded by his children and friends"⁵⁷.

Anna, who was often called Anne, outlived her husband by twelve years, dying in 1889 at the age of 94. She was recognized in that year as the oldest living county resident, having lived under every U.S. President⁵⁵. She is said to have also been active in church work. After George's death, she lived with the McCords in Greenville, and in 1882 was said to be "still enjoy[ing] the use of her mental faculties, and more than average good health"⁵⁷. About a year before her death, she had an accident after which she was unable to walk, but was often taken to church in her wheelchair. In the spring of the year of her death, she attended a Presbyterian Assembly where she was honored as the only surviving member of the first presbytery of Illinois¹²¹.

George and Anna, with many of their family, are buried in Hazel Dell Cemetery, for which they donated the land.

Children:

- i. Joseph McLean⁴ **Donnell**. Born 16 Jun 1816²², in Guilford co, NC³⁶. Died 28 Jan 1894, in Greenville, Bond co, IL³⁷. He married, first, Mary Jane **Morrison**, 2 Jan 1840³⁸ in Montgomery co, IL¹²⁴. She was born 24 Dec 1817 in Iredell co, NC, and died 14 Feb 1862¹²³ in Bond co, IL⁶³. He married, second, Anna (**Franklin**) **Catlin**, 26 Aug 1869³⁹ of Heyworth, McLean co, IL. She was the daughter of Amos A. and Minerva (**Cary**) **Franklin**. She had a son Franklin I.

Catlin, who settled in Kentucky. When Joseph was married, his father gave him a 115-acre farm north of Greenville. He added to this land, building a house and barns in Central twp, and lived there until 1877. At that time he moved into Greenville, "where he built a beautiful and commodious residence, on the corner of Sixth and Summer Streets"³¹. He was a deacon, an elder, and a teacher in the Greenville Presbyterian Church for many years. He was School Director and Town Supervisor for La Grange twp³¹. Joseph and Mary Jane had eight children, of whom five survived infancy: Clarissa married A.C. **Phelps** and lived in Denver, CO, Ada A. married Jacob **Brown** and also lived in Denver, Leonora married George N. **Wheeler** and went to Connecticut, Robert Chalmers married Juliet **Hardin** and lived in Hillsboro, IL, and Arthur Morrison remained in Greenville^{31,125}.

- ii. John Denny **Donnell**. Born 8 Sep 1817¹²², in Guilford co, NC⁴⁰. Died 18 Dec 1872¹²², in St. Louis, St. Louis co, MO⁴¹. He married Ann Rachel **Robinson**, 15 Jun 1843⁴² in Bond co, IL¹²⁶. She was born 18 Dec 1822¹²³, the daughter of Gideon and Rachel (**Craig**) **Robinson**, and died 17 Mar 1896, both in Bond co, IL^{42,127}. As a child he attended the local log schoolhouse, and Hillsboro Academy for one year. He served in the Civil War in Company F, 130th IL Infantry, being made captain at the Battle of Vicksburg. He also served at Jackson, New Orleans, and in Texas⁴². In 1865, he and a brother crossed the plains with an ox team to Denver¹²⁷. He returned to Bond co, where he farmed land on the border of Central and LaGrange twps. He increased his property to about 500 acres. He was also a successful cattle dealer and a ruling elder in the Presbyterian Church¹²⁷. His tragic and grisly death at the age of 55 probably resulted from trying to board a moving train in St. Louis, by which his body was dragged for some distance¹³⁵. He is buried in Hazel Dell Cemetery. Denny and Mary Jane had four children born to them: James Edwin married Laura Etta **Stevens** and lived in Salida, CO, and Los Angeles, CA; William Joseph of Bond co married Laura **Miller**, farmed his father's land, and was fatally injured in a farming accident in 1919; Ann Elizabeth married Daniel **Hair** and died in 1878; and Charles Denny died in infancy; and two were adopted: Mary **Manning** married William **Brown** and lived in Cassville, MO; and Robert **Sloan**, a Seventh Day Adventist minister of Walla Walla, WA^{42,55,127}.
- iii. Polly Ellen **Donnell**. Born, 8 Nov 1819¹²², in Bond co, IL⁴³. Died there 6 Oct 1820^{122,43}.
- iv. William Nelson **Donnell**. Born, 1 Nov 1821^{122,123}, in Bond co, IL⁴⁴. Died, 8 Nov 1895^{122,123}, in Bond co, IL⁴⁵. He married Letitia Jane **White**, 1 Apr 1847, in Bond co, IL⁴⁶. She was born 18 Mar 1826, the daughter of Samuel and Cynthia **White**, and died 23 Jul 1911 in Los Angeles, CA^{123,128,129}. William attended Hillsboro Academy and then taught school for two terms. Before his marriage, he traveled to North Carolina on horseback¹²⁸ (perhaps with his father). He farmed 400 acres in LaGrange twp until 1875, when he retired to Greenville. He was township treasurer for twenty years, an elder in the Presbyterian Church for thirty years, and a temperance worker. William and Letitia had seven children: Beulah A. married W.C. **Ingram** and lived in Beloit, KS; Mary E., born 22 Feb 1850, died 20 Mar 1941, lived in Los Angeles, unmarried; Samuel H., born 3 Jan 1852, died 6 Mar 1924, lived in Leadville, CO; Calvin N. of Los Angeles; Albert O. married Ella **Wallace** and lived in Greenville; William D. of Greenville; and Ellen White, born 30 Mar 1865 and died, unmarried, 17 Jul 1901, both in Bond co, IL.^{123,128,129,130,131}
- v. James Mebane **Donnell**. Born 24 Aug 1823¹²², in Bond co, IL⁴⁷. Died 4 Jan 1900^{43,122} in San Diego, CA. A schoolteacher in Bond co in his early years, he

- lived in Albuquerque, NM, before moving to California. Buried in Los Angeles¹²¹.
- vi. Elizabeth Ann **Donnell**. Born 5 Oct 1825, in Bond co, IL^{48,122}. Died 16 Apr 1879¹²², in Florence, Marion co, KS⁴⁸. She married James Kerr **McLean**, son of John **McLean** and Mary "Polly" **Kerr**, 7 Jan 1847 in Bond co, IL⁴⁹ (see McLean Family).
 - vii. Thomas Spillman **Donnell**. Born 8 Nov 1827¹²², in Bond co, IL⁵⁰. Died 29 Nov 1873¹²², in Bond co, IL⁵⁰. He married Catherine Jane **Paisley**, license dated 6 Apr 1852, Montgomery co, IL¹³². She was born 8 Jun 1833 in Montgomery co, IL, and died 13 Jun 1910 in Carwood, KS¹³³. His farm was four miles west of Greenville. Five children: George H. of Snohomish, WA; Charles Robert of Portland, OR; James G. of Hutchinson, KS; Mary E. "Mamie" married an **Oldham** and lived in Carwood, KS; and Clara Olive, born 11 Jan 1870 in Bond co, IL, married F.W. **Austin** 18 Mar 1891 in Wichita, KS, and died 15 Apr 1909 in Snohomish, WA¹³³.
 - viii. George Washington "Wash" **Donnell**. Born 29 Jan 1830¹²², in Bond co, IL⁵¹. Died 21 Apr 1902¹²² in Pasadena, CA¹³¹. He left Bond co in 1842 for Topeka, KS, where he lived for many years, becoming wealthy in the cattle business¹³¹. His children are believed to be: Emma married **Phillips**; Georgia lived in Long Beach, CA; May married **Elliott**, was widowed and remarried; Walter; and Lucy, who married and moved to South Africa.
 - ix. Mary Jane **Donnell**. Born 4 Mar 1832^{122,123}, in Bond co, IL²⁰. Died 14 Mar 1833^{122,123}.
 - x. Robert Levi **Donnell**. Born 8 Jun 1834^{122,123}, in Bond co, IL²⁰. Died 24 Oct 1835¹²³.
 - xi. Levi Scott **Donnell**. Born 10 Jul 1836^{122,123}, in Bond co, IL²⁰. Died 2 Sep 1837^{122,123}.
 - xii. Henry Calvin **Donnell**. Born 14 Apr 1839¹²², in Bond co, IL⁵². Died 13 Jul 1917^{43,122} at Yountville, CA¹³⁴. He married Anna (-----). She died in Denver and he remarried. For some years he had a ranch at Poncha Springs, Chaffee co, near Salida, CO. One son, Harry¹³⁴.
 - xiii. Emily Roxanna **Donnell**. Born 12 Mar 1842¹²², in Bond co, IL⁵³. Died 4 Dec 1926⁵³. She married as his second wife, Col. George Custer **McCord**, 7 Mar 1863, in Greenville, Bond co, IL⁵⁴. He was born 15 Nov 1835 in Washington co, IL, son of Charles A. and Mary (**Patterson**) **McCord**⁶⁴, and died 7 Oct 1901 at Greenville, Bond co, IL⁵³. He was a Civil War veteran, serving as First Lieutenant in Company B, 111th IL Regiment⁵³, a Deputy U.S. Marshall⁶⁴, and a colonel in the Illinois militia. After his death, Emily lived in Tulsa, OK. Four children: Ella **McCord**, born 7 Apr 1864, died June 1945 in Tulsa, OK, married James Meredith **Smith** 8 Jun 1887; Emma **McCord**, born 14 Nov 1865, died 23 Mar 1866; George Allison **McCord**, born 6 May 1867, died 28 Jan 1908, married 20 Jan 1900 Mamie M. **Bryant**, married second July 1906, Minnie Lee **Echoles**; Emma Delia **Donnell McCord**, born 13 Jun 1878, died 14 Sep 1957 in Honolulu, HI, married 26 Dec 1899 Albert **Weaver**, married second Bert **Schofield**⁵³.

There were two George **Donnells** living in Bond County at about the same time. George #2 was a first cousin of the George who was our ancestor. When researching the Donnell family in Bond County, it is essential to differentiate between the two men; therefore, it may be useful to include here some basic data on George #2. He was born 21 Sep 1791 in Guilford co, NC, son of Andrew and Agnes (**Brawley**) **Donnell**, and married Deliverance "Dilly" **Paisley** 19 Sep 1811 in Guilford co. She was born 10 Nov 1791, daughter of John and Jane (**Rankin**) **Paisley**. They moved to Bond co, IL, arriving in Dec 1822. Their farm was in Sections 25 and 26 of Township 7, Range

4, in Shoal Creek twp on the border of Montgomery co near the small town of Donnellson. They belonged to the Donnellson Presbyterian Church. George died 13 Apr 1853 and Deliverance 27 Oct 1849, both buried in the Donnellson Cemetery in Montgomery County.

George #2 and Deliverance **Donnell** had eight children: Thomas Carson **Donnell** (1812-1904) married Jane **Finley**, John Paisley **Donnell** (1814-1874) married Mary "Polly" **Barry**, William Alvin **Donnell** (1816-1899) married Hannah Celesta **Hamilton**, Abi Eston **Donnell** (1817-?) married Sarah T. **Allen**, Nancy Jane **Donnell** (1820-1902) married Michael **Finley**, Samuel Rankin **Donnell** (1825-1901); Rebecca Paisley **Donnell** (1829-1866) married David W. **Hill**, and Margaret Elizabeth **Donnell** (1832-1888) married Dr. James E. **Barber**. Although several of the sons have similar names to those of our George, they can be differentiated in most records by the middle name or initial.

NOTES AND REFERENCES

¹ History of Buffalo Presbyterian Church and Her People, Greensboro, NC, by Rev. S. M. Rankin, 1934, FHL 1,034,755, item 4, p 24.

² Ibid., p 24 & 124.

³ Will of William Donnell, 1816, Guilford County, NC Wills, file 0528, FHL 502,409; Will of Latham Donnell, 1829, Guilford County, NC Wills, FHL 502,409; Buffalo Church History, p 24 (date).

⁴ Buffalo Church History.

⁵ Ibid., p 24; Abstracts of Marriage Bonds and Additional Data, Guilford County, North Carolina, by Ruth F. Thompson & Louise J. Hartgrove (Greensboro: Guilford County Genealogical Society, 1981), v I, p 43, calls her "Margret Donold".

⁶ William Donnell will; Buffalo Church History, p 24.

⁷ Buffalo Presbyterian Church and Cemetery, Greensboro, North Carolina, Raymond Dufau Donnell (Greensboro: Guilford County Genealogical Society, 1994), Second Printing.

⁸ Abstracts of Marriage Bonds, v I, p 48.

⁹ William Donnell will; Latham Donnell will; Transcription of Donnell-Woodburn Bible, North Carolina State Library, Genealogy Vertical File; Buffalo Church History.

¹⁰ Donnell-Woodburn Bible.

¹¹ Buffalo Church History, p 24; Marriages of Rowan Co, NC, by Brent Holcomb, 1981, p 107.

¹² Abstracts of Marriage Bonds, v I, p 47; Buffalo Church History, p 24.

¹³ Was she the Jane, wife of Robert Donnell, who died 5 June 1816, aged 50 years? It appears from the will of Latham that she married a Donnell, since he bequeaths to the heirs of his sisters Hannah Denny and Jane Donnell.

¹⁵ William Donnell will.

¹⁶ Latham Donnell will.

¹⁷ Buffalo Church and Cemetery, p 22; Buffalo Church History, pp 24-25 & 14-15.

¹⁸ Buffalo Church and Cemetery, p 22; Pension Application of Elizabeth Donnell for Revolutionary War Service of John Donnell, NARA, file W4180.

¹⁹ Buffalo Church History, p 24-25.

²⁰ Manuscript family record, compiled by Inez (Whitney) Hannaford (1877-1971), Mt. Vernon, Washington, completed about 1942. She was a granddaughter of James K. and Elizabeth Ann (Donnell) McLean.

²¹ Abstracts of Marriage Bonds, v I, p 170.

²² Ibid., p 48.

²³ Ibid., p 141.

²⁴ Eliz. Donnell pension.

- ²⁵ Ibid.; Inez Hannaford manuscript, citing unspecified Bible records.
- ²⁶ Abstracts of Marriage Bonds, v I, p 47.
- ²⁷ Eliz. Donnell pension; Inez Hannaford manuscript; Alamance Cem. Inscript. (date calculated).
- ²⁸ Abstracts of Marriage Bonds, v I, p 196.
- ²⁹ Eliz. Donnell pension; Buffalo Church and Cemetery, p 22; Inez Hannaford manuscript.
- ³⁰ Abstracts of Marriage Bonds, v I, p 48.
- ³¹ Portrait and Biographical Record of Montgomery and Bond Counties, IL (Chicago: Chapman Bros., 1892), p 222.
- ³² Ibid., p 222; A History of Bond County, IL, Bond County Historical Society, 1979, p 214.
- ³³ Abstracts of Marriage Bonds, v I, p 47.
- ³⁴ Death record of Anna Donnell, Bond County, IL Death Register, Book A, p 123, FHL 1,317,525, calculated; Bond County, IL Cemeteries and Burial Grounds, Bond County Historical Society, Part IV (FHL 977.387, V22b), p 21 (Hazel Dell Cem.); History of Bond Co, IL, p 214.
- ³⁵ Anna Donnell death rec.; Bond Co, IL Cemeteries, p 21.
- ³⁶ Bond Co, IL Cemeteries, p 21; Obituaries and Register of Deaths in Greenville, Illinois Advocate, 1858-1899, compiled by Nelda Neer Anthony, 1985, p 101; Bond Co, IL Bio Record, p 221.
- ³⁷ Greenville, IL Obits, p 101; Bond Co, IL Cemeteries, p 21 says Jan 26.
- ³⁸ Greenville, IL Obits, p 101; Bond Co, IL Bio Record, p 101.
- ³⁹ Greenville, IL Obits, p 101; Bond Co, IL Bio Record, p 222.
- ⁴⁰ Bond Co, IL Cemeteries, p 21.
- ⁴¹ Ibid.; History of Bond Co, IL, p 215; Greenville, IL Obits, p 123 says 1873.
- ⁴² Greenville, IL obits, p 123.
- ⁴³ Harned and Other Lines, compiled by Willodean Tracy Nease Schofield, Anderson, IN Chapter, Daughters of American Colonists, 1960, p 25.
- ⁴⁴ Greenville, IL Obits, p 117; Bond Co, IL Cemeteries, p 22.
- ⁴⁵ Greenville, IL Obits, p 117; Bond Co, IL Cemeteries, p 22.
- ⁴⁶ Marriage Records of Bond County, Illinois, FHL 1,317,524; Greenville, IL obits, p 117.
- ⁴⁷ Harned and Other Lines, p 25; Inez Hannaford manuscript.
- ⁴⁸ Gravestone inscriptions, Hillcrest Cemetery, Florence, Kansas.
- ⁴⁹ Ibid.; Bond Co., IL marriages.
- ⁵⁰ Bond Co, IL Cemeteries, p 22.
- ⁵¹ Inez Hannaford manuscript; History of Bond Co, IL, p 215.
- ⁵² 1860 U.S. Census, Bond County, Illinois, Greenville twp; Inez Hannaford manuscript.
- ⁵³ Harned and Other Lines, p 27.
- ⁵⁴ Bond Co., IL marriages, Bk A, p 24; Harned and Other Lines, p 27 says Mar 8.
- ⁵⁵ A History of Bond County, Illinois, Bond County Historical Society, 1979, p 214.
- ⁵⁶ Bond Co, IL deeds, bk A, p 61, FHL 1315967.
- ⁵⁷ Perrin, William H., History of Bond and Montgomery Counties, Illinois (Chicago: 1882), Part II, p 9-11.
- ⁵⁸ Bond Co, IL deeds, bk B, p 13.
- ⁵⁹ Members of Church of Greenville, listed in Bond County Genealogical Society News, v 3, #2, Summer 1985.
- ⁶⁰ Rouse, Park, jr., The Great Wagon Road (Richmond, VA: Dietz Press, 1995).
- ⁶¹ Perrin, History of Bond and Montgomery, Part I, p 39.
- ⁶² Bond Co, IL deeds, bk G, p 450, and bk 15, p 62.
- ⁶³ Greenville, IL Obits, p 5.
- ⁶⁴ Perrin, History of Bond and Montgomery, Part II, p 24.
- ⁶⁵ 1850 U.S. Census, Bond co, IL, roll 98, p 361.
- ⁶⁶ The Donnells and Their MacDonald Ancestors, Emma A. Donnell and James Arthur Donnell (Greenfield, IN: Wm. Mitchell, 1928), p 60, FHL fiche 6026768; The MacDonald McDonald Genealogy, J. Montgomery Seaver, American Historical-Genealogical Society, Philadelphia, PA.

- ⁶⁷ Chester County, PA Tax Lists, 1715- , FHL film 20901.
- ⁶⁸ Carolina Cradle, Settlement of the Northwest Carolina Frontier, 1747-1762, Robert W. Ramsey (Chapel Hill, NC: U of NC Press, 1964), p 29 & 139.
- ⁶⁹ History of Cecil County, Maryland, George Johnston (Elkton, 1881), p 276-278.
- ⁷⁰ The History of Guilford County, North Carolina, Sallie W. Stockard, 1902, republished by the Guilford County Genealogical Society, 1983, p 3.
- ⁷¹ Buffalo Presbyterian Church and Cemetery, Greensboro, North Carolina, Raymond Dufau Donnell, (Greensboro: Guilford County Genealogical Society, 1994), Second Printing, p i.
- ⁷² Rowan County, North Carolina, Deed Abstracts, Vol. II, 1762-1772, Jo White Linn, Salisbury, NC, 1972, p 33, 74, 83.
- ⁷³ Buffalo Church History, p 14.
- ⁷⁴ Ibid., p 124.
- ⁷⁵ Ibid., p 16-17.
- ⁷⁶ "Salisbury District Superior Court Minutes", *Rowan County Register*, v 1, no 1, Feb 1986, p 42.
- ⁷⁷ Guilford County, N.C., a map supplement, Fred Hughes, Jamestown, NC, 1988, p 63.
- ⁷⁸ Ibid., p 114-119.
- ⁷⁹ The Old North State in 1776, Rev. Eli W. Caruthers, DD, 1854-1856, republished by the Guildford County Genealogical Society, 1985, p 146.
- ⁸⁰ Buffalo Church and Cemetery, p 74.
- ⁸¹ Ibid., p 23.
- ⁸² Ibid., p 20.
- ⁸³ Ibid., p 67.
- ⁸⁴ Ibid., p 73.
- ⁸⁵ Ibid., p 76.
- ⁸⁶ Will of John Donnell dated 12 Mar 1822, Guilford co, NC, North Carolina State Archives, file 0522.
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- ⁸⁸ Buffalo Church History, p 124.
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- ⁹⁰ First Census of the United States - 1790, North Carolina, Heads of Families, Salisbury District, p 152.
- ⁹¹ 1800 US Census, Guilford co, NC, p 641.
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- ⁹³ Will of Elizabeth Donnell dated 10 Jan 1842, Guilford co, NC State Archives.
- ⁹⁴ Buffalo Church and Cemetery, p 22.
- ⁹⁵ Will of James Denny dated 10 Dec 1790, Guilford co, NC State Archives.
- ⁹⁶ Day and month of birth for the children of John Donnell and Hannah Meek supplied by Thomas J. McBryde, 6507 Huckleberry Cove, Austin, TX 78746, without citing a specific source.
- ⁹⁷ Tom McBryde, citing records of Spring Creek Presbyterian Church.
- ⁹⁸ Tom McBryde, citing James Kerr (sic) Donnell's family Bible, dated 1826, family record published in *The Guilford Genealogist*, Guilford County Genealogical Society, v IV, no 2, Winter 1983, p 32.
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- ¹⁰² Will of William Donnell dated 26 Oct 1816, Guilford co, NC wills, FHL film 502409, file 0528.
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- ¹⁰⁶ Buffalo Church and Cemetery, p 70.
- ¹⁰⁷ Petition of Elizabeth and Hannah Donnell for sale of real estate in estate of Levi Donnell, dated 20 Apr 1840, Guilford co Court of Equity, NC State Archives.
- ¹⁰⁸ The Life and Character of Rev. David Caldwell, D.D., Rev. Eli W. Caruthers (Greensboro, NC: Swaim & Sherwood, 1842), p 232.
- ¹⁰⁹ Bond County, Illinois Records and Traditions, John Nowlan (Greenville, IL: Bond County Genealogical Society, 1988).
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- ¹¹¹ "Another Pioneer Gone", obituary clipping preserved by the Donnell family of Greenville, IL, probably from the *Greenville Advocate*.
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- ¹¹³ Historical Souvenir of Greenville, Illinois, Will C. Carson (Effingham, IL: LeCrone Press, 1905), p 133.
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- ¹¹⁷ Historical Souvenir, p 16.
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- ¹¹⁹ "Town Founded 138 Years Ago, Named For Its Verdant Trees", H. Denny Donnell, jr., *The Papyrus*, Greenville College, Issue on City of Greenville, 6 Nov 1953, p 3.
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- ¹²² Transcription of family record in the Bible of George and Anna Donnell, received from Dr. H. Denny Donnell, Columbia, MO.
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- ¹²⁷ Portrait and Biographical Record of Montgomery and Bond Counties, Illinois (Chicago: Chapman Bros., 1892), p 202.
- ¹²⁸ *Ibid.*, p 246.
- ¹²⁹ Obituaries from Greenville Advocate, Greenville, Illinois 1911-1913, Nelda Neer Anthony, 1991, p 22.
- ¹³⁰ Will of William N. Donnell, dated 22 Oct 1895, Bond co, IL Probate Court, Greenville, IL.
- ¹³¹ Obituaries from Greenville Advocate, Greenville, Illinois 1900-1905, Nelda Neer Anthony, 1988, p 32 & 52.
- ¹³² Montgomery County, Illinois Marriage Records, 1851-1870, Montgomery County Genealogical Society, Litchfield, IL, 1984.
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